

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-10 SAB-01 INR-05 NSC-05  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NEA-07 AF-04 SP-02 PM-03  
L-01 PA-01 /062 W  
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R 221250Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5343

S E C R E T BELGRADE 1432

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: YO, PN  
SUBJ: THE BELGRADE NONALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE:  
CONVERSATION WITH PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR (VIRILIO BRANDFORD)

1. THE PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BELGRADE (AN AWFUL BORE, BUT WELL CONNECTED WITH A NUMBER OF YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT AND PARTY OFFICIALS -- HE WAS A STUDENT HERE A DECADE AGO AND SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE -- AND OTHER NONALIGNED AMBASSADORS) RECENTLY MADE SOME INTERESTING COMMENTS ON THE UPCOMING BELGRADE NONALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR LATE JULY.

2. BRADFORD SAYS THERE ARE TWENTY-FIVE TO THIRTY NONALIGNED STATES CURRENTLY PLANNING, BECAUSE OF THE LOCATION, TO BOYCOTT THE 1979 HAVANA NONALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE. THESE INCLUDE SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, JORDAN, SOMALIA, SUDAN, CHAD, AND A NUMBER OF OTHER EAST AND WEST AFRICAN STATES. THE YUGOSLAVS, EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT, ARE ANXIOUSLY LOBBYING IN FAVOR OF HAVANA IN AN ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF A BLOW-UP HERE IN JULY. THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE ASKED HIM PERSONALLY, BRANDFORD SAID, TO INTERCEDE WITH TORRIJOS TO PERSUADE THE PANAMANIAN  
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TO LOBBY IN A SIMILAR FASHION, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE LATIN AMERICAN NONALIGNED.

3. ACCORDING TO BRANDFORD THE CUBANS ARE WELL AWARE OF THE POSSIBLE CONFRONTATION THIS JULY, AND RECOGNIZE THAT THE SOMALIS WILL RAISE GOC INVOLVEMENT IN THE HORN -- WHICH COULD LEAD TO A "CHAIN-REACTION" AGAINST

CUBA. CONSEQUENTLY, BRANDFORD PREDICTED THAT THE CUBANS WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO "DISENGAGE" FROM THE HORN BY NO LATER THAN THE END OF MAY.

4. THE PANAMANIANIS ARE WORKING HARD TO OBTAIN NONALIGNED MEMBERSHIP FOR BOLIVIA, WHILE THE CUBANS ARE EQUALLY SET AGAINST SUCH STATUS BECAUSE OF THE CHE GUEVERRA EPISODE.

5. AMBASSADOR BRANDFORD ALSO REMARKED THAT PRESIDENT TITO HAD PERSONALLY ADVISED GENERAL TORRIJOS TO BE AS FLEXIBLE WITH REGARD TO POTENTIAL US SENATE AMENDMENTS TO THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY AS POSSIBLE. ACCORDING TO BRANDFORD, TITO'S ADVICE MADE A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON TORRIJOS AND IT IN PART RESPONSIBLE FOR THE APPROACH THE GENERAL HAS TAKEN TO THE ISSUE OF AMENDMENTS.  
EAGLEBURGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NONALIGNED NATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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